

# Paint

## Covered Products

Latex paints and primers for both interior and exterior applications. Recycled content paints are covered by this specification.

## Definitions

**Latex paint:** A water-based paint with a synthetic binder such as acrylic, vinyl acrylic, or other such polymers.

**Recycled content paint:** Paint that has been reprocessed to meet specific performance measures and contains a minimum of 50% by volume post-consumer paint and a maximum of 50% by volume secondary industrial materials or virgin materials.

**Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC):** Human-made or naturally occurring organic chemical compounds that easily enter the air as gases from some solids or liquids and are used and produced in the manufacture of paints, adhesives, some building materials, petroleum products, pharmaceuticals, and refrigerants. VOCs are present in nearly all interior environments. Reduction of the introduction of VOCs in interior environments is part of maintaining good indoor air quality.

**Strong third-party certifications:** Third-party certifications for latex paints and primers that restrict chemicals of concern (COC), limit VOC content and emissions, and require products to meet performance standards.

**Acceptable third-party certifications:** Third-party certifications for latex paints and primers that restrict chemicals of concern, limit either VOC content or emissions, and require products to meet performance standards or commensurate attributes.

## Standard Setting and Certifying Programs

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Deleted: **Background** [§](#)

Paint can impact air quality and affect the health of building occupants and painters due to volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions and the presence of hazardous air pollutants. The twentieth century saw the development of water and latex based paints as well as reductions in the levels of VOCs and reductions or removal of hazardous air pollutants in response to increases in regulation and the environmental and health impacts. The emergence of recycled content paints has continued to push the industry in a more sustainable direction. New York State plans to use its purchasing power to support this progress and foster further advancement of sustainable paints by creating a separate recycled content paint specification in the future. This specification does not cover non-architectural paints. Click [here](#) for the green purchasing specification for pavement marking paint. [§](#)

Deleted: Products meeting this standard qualify as Executive Order 4 (EO 4) Compliant Plus.

Deleted: **EO 4 Compliant Plus:** This is a designation that is preferred for procurement over products that comply with the baseline requirements in this specification

Deleted: **Recycled content:** Minimum of 50% post-consumer recycled content. [§](#)

**Master Painters Institute** is a non-profit, third-party standard setting and certification organization focused on quality assurance in the paint and coating industry. They have three separate multi-attribute eco-standards that cover all types of paints and coatings.

**Green Wise** is a third-party certification for paints and coatings administered by the Coatings Research Group Incorporated (CRGI), a non-profit association of paint and coating manufacturers. CRGI maintains an ISO 17025 certified laboratory to ensure compliance with the two certifications they oversee.

**Cradle to Cradle** is a multi-attribute eco-label that evaluates a wide range of products across five categories of human and environmental health. The standard includes material health, material reutilization, renewable energy and carbon management, and water stewardship. For more information visit the [Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute](#) website.

**Green Seal** is a non-profit, independent, third-party standard setting and certification organization that follows the Guiding Principles and Procedures for Type I Environmental Labeling adopted by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO 14024). Green Seal has developed environmental standards and certifies products for more than 40 major product categories.

**UL EcoLogo** is an independent, third-party standard setting and certification program that follows the Guiding Principles and Procedures for Type I Environmental Labeling adopted by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO 14024). Since its establishment in 1988, EcoLogo has been recognized or referenced in hundreds of specifications and standards. It has standards for cleaning products, sanitary paper, trash bags, adhesives and more. UL EcoLogo certified products are listed on the UL SPOT database at [www.ul.com/SPOT](http://www.ul.com/SPOT).

**South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)** is the air pollution control agency for all of Orange County and the urban portions of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, the smoggiest region of the U.S. Standards set by this pollution control agency are cited in LEED rating systems as well as regulation related to air quality in buildings. Information regarding SCAQMD can be found at <http://www.aqmd.gov/>.

**SCS Indoor Advantage Gold** is a third-party certification for emissions limits to ensure compliance with the State of California’s Department of Public Health “Standard Method for the Testing and Evaluation of Volatile Organic Chemical Emissions from Indoor Sources Using Environmental Chambers, Version 1.1 (2010)” (California Section 01350).

**UL GREENGUARD Gold** is a single-attribute certification for low-emitting products such as flooring, adhesives, paints, furniture, building construction products, insulation and many other. UL GREENGUARD Gold products are listed on the UL SPOT database at [www.ul.com/SPOT](http://www.ul.com/SPOT).

**USDA Certified Biobased** is a third-party certification of the biobased content in a product and its packaging administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The content is quantified using ASTM International D6866.

## Specifications

### 1. Choose Latex over Oil Paint

The procurement of latex paints is encouraged over oil paints.

### 2. Recycled Paint

- Affected entities shall, to the maximum extent practicable, purchase recycled content paints over virgin paints for interior use.
- Affected entities are encouraged, to the maximum extent practicable, to purchase recycled content paints over virgin paints for exterior use.

### 3. Chemicals of Concern

Affected entities shall, to the maximum extent practicable, purchase paints and primers that meet the following standards:

- Shall not exceed the VOC content limits established by 6 NYCRR § 205.3.
- Shall not contain mercury, methylene chloride or perchloroethylene.

### 4. Certifications

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Deleted: aAffected entities shall to the maximum extent practicable procure latex paints and primers that have at least one of the following multi-attribute third-party certifications.

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MPI;  
Green Performance Standard 2;  
Green Performance Standard 1;  
Green Seal: GS-11 Paints, Coatings, Stains, and Sealers;  
Cradle to Cradle (Silver or higher); and  
UL EcoLogo: UL 2768 Architectural Surface Coatings

Third-party Certification

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When purchasing virgin paints and primers, affected entities shall, to the maximum extent practicable, procure paints and primers that have at least one of the following multi-attribute third-party certifications:

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- Master Painters Institute (MPI) Extreme Green;
- MPI:
  - Green Performance Standard 2;
  - Green Performance Standard 1;
- Green Seal: GS-11 Paints, Coatings, Stains, and Sealers;
- Cradle to Cradle (Silver or higher); and
- UL EcoLogo: UL 2768 Architectural Surface Coatings

<u>Third-party Certification</u>	<u>Restrict COCs</u>	<u>VOC content limit</u>	<u>VOC emission limit</u>	<u>Performance standards</u>
<u>MPI X-Green</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>MPI GPS 2</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>
<u>MPI GPS 1</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>
<u>Green Seal-11</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>
<u>Cradle to Cradle</u>	<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>	
<u>UL EcoLogo 2768</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>		<u>X</u>

Affected entities are encouraged, to the maximum extent practicable, to purchase products with the following environmental attributes:

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- SCS Indoor Advantage Gold certification, solely focused on VOC emissions
- UL GREENGUARD Gold certification, solely focused on VOC emissions
- USDA Biobased certification, solely focused on amount of renewable content
- Compliance with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) limit on VOCs of 50 grams/liter. This attribute only applies to paints other than interior flats.
- A Health Product Declaration (HPD), solely focused on potential chemicals of concern, has been published by the manufacturer

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## Take-Back/ Recycling

Affected entities are encouraged to:

- Keep and appropriately maintain an appropriate amount of excess paint for future projects and recycle any excess paint whenever possible.
- Include a take-back agreement from the manufacturer in the procurement of paint.
- Work with the vendor during the purchasing process to only purchase the amount of paint necessary for the project and to look at available donation and recycling options for excess paint, regardless of manufacturer.
- Work with contractors who offer programs that include take-back and the proper environmental disposal of materials (including materials manufacturers and sold by others).

Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) Article 27, Title 20 requires producers of architectural paint sold in New York state to take part in a postconsumer paint collection and recycling program. State Agencies are reminded to direct unused paint to a PaintCare drop-off site for recycling or contact PaintCare for a large volume pick-up.

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**Deleted:** State Agencies are reminded to follow State Finance Law § 167 regarding surplus property redistribution before utilizing take-back, recycling or other options for the disposition of any paint that is still in useable condition. This standard requires donation of usable materials to other state agencies prior to declaration of materials as surplus or waste.¶  
Affected entities should provide details regarding existing materials for take-back, including location of materials (i.e. whether materials are located in a basement; up one flight of stairs; fourth floor location with elevator access; or whether agency will move to dock) and any other pertinent information that will assist the contractor in determining disposal costs.¶  
If materials are being transferred for disposition, a record of each disposition shall be retained by the affected entity. Documentation shall be provided to the affected entity demonstrating that these products have been disposed of in an environmentally sound manner in compliance with applicable local, state and federal laws. The contractor or disposing party shall provide assurance to the affected entity that all exports of used materials collected for reuse, recycling or disposal will be in compliance with the laws of the importing country.¶

## Packaging

Packaging shall comply with Environmental Conservation Law section 37-0205. Packaging shall not contain inks, dyes, pigments, adhesives, stabilizers, or any other additives to which any lead, cadmium, mercury, or hexavalent chromium is intentionally added or contain incidental concentrations of lead, cadmium, mercury or hexavalent chromium which together are greater than 100 parts per million by weight (0.01%).

New York State encourages affected entities to adopt the following in order of preference when purchasing items that come in packaging:

- Items that do not need packaging, or the packaging is part of the product.
- Items that come in reusable packaging.
- Items that come in bulk packaging.
- Items that come in innovative packaging that reduces the amount of packaging.
- Items that come in packaging that remains the property of the supplier and does not become the property of the end user under any circumstance or condition. The vendor shall certify that the packaging material will be reused, recycled, or composted, and managed in compliance with applicable local, state, and federal laws.
- Items that come in packaging that maximizes recycled or biodegradable (compostable) content and/or meets or exceeds the minimum post-consumer content level for packaging in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines. Biodegradable products should only be used in areas where a composting facility exists that accept the material.
- Items that come in Packaging that is recyclable or biodegradable (compostable). Biodegradable products should only be used in areas where a composting facility exists and will accept the material.

